[11th March 1961

[*Note.*—**An asterisk* at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II—CALLING ATTENTION TO AN URGENT MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE *RE* CLOSURE OF THE METTUR DAM FOR IRRIGATION AND CONSEQUENT WITHERING OF CROPS.

SRI N. S. RAMALINGAM : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே . . . (கனம் ஸ்ரீ ஸி. சுப்பிரமணியம் : இதில் தான் பேசக்கூடாதே) எனக்குப் பேச இரண்டு நிமிஷங்கள் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

MR. SPEAKER : அதெப்படி? அது சட்டத்திற்கு விரோதம் ஆயிற்றே. இரண்டு நிமிஷம் கொடுத்தேன், இதற்கு முன் வரை அது 20 நிமிஷங்கள் ஆகிவிட்டன. அதன் பிறகுதான் மோஷனை மாத்திரம் படிக்க வேண்டும் என்று சொன்னோம். அங்கத்தினர் அவர்கள் ரூல் 41 மோஷனைப் படிக்க வேண்டும். அவ்வளவுதான். விதிகளின்படி அவர் பேசமுடியாது.

* SRI N. S. RAMALINGAM : Sir, under Rule 41 of the Assembly Rules I call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Works to an urgent matter of public importance, viz., the decision of the Government to close the Mettur Dam for irrigation from 25th February 1961 and the consequent withering of crops in thousands of acres of lands that were sown as per the advice of the Government after the recent floods.

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that discontinuing irrigation supplies from Mettur from 25th February 1961 was under contemplation. But the position regarding the need to continue supplies to the areas affected by the heavy rains during November last, has been carefully considered by the Government and necessary instructions have been given to the Irrigation Branch to continue supply to the needy areas till about 10th March 1961. There is therefore no cause for any alarm.

III.—PRIVILEGE MATTER.

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Sir, I am extremely sorry that I have to raise a matter of privilege . . . .

MR. SPEAKER : I am sure the hon. Member knows the rules. (The hon. Member, Sri M. Kalyanasundaram rose.)

He should not rise now. I will first read the rules and then the hon. Member can argue with me on the legal position. Rule 184 says—

'A member wishing to raise a matter of privilege shall, before the commencement of the sitting of the day on which he proposes to raise the point, leave with the Speaker a written notice of the matter proposed to be raised.'

The hon. Member has done that.

Then Rule 185 says—

'If the Speaker is of opinion that the matter which the member proposes to raise does involve a question of privilege of the House, he may consent to the matter being raised.'